

Message Text

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12

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 SCEM-02 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01 /036 W

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P R 120642Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3041

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEHRAN 4871

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ECON

SUBJECT: RGA REQUEST FOR WORLD GAS PRICES

REF: KABUL 5095

1. PRICE FOR GAS SUPPLIED THROUGH IGAT PIPELINE TO USSR IS 19.7 CENTS PER 1,000 CUBIC FEET. AS EMBASSY KABUL WELL AWARE ALL SUCH PRICES IN BARTER DEALS ARE PURELY NOTIONAL IN THAT THEY REPRESENT NO CASH INCOME BUT SIMPLY PROVIDE BASIS FOR KEEPING BOOKS ON BARTER EXCHANGES.

2. GOI IS PROFOUNDLY UNSATISFIED WITH THIS PRICE AND IS ENGAGED RIGHT NOW IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH SOVIETS TO INCREASE THIS PRICE. WE BELIEVE GOI WOULD BE MOST INTERESTED IN COMPARING NOTES ON SUCH NEGOTIATIONS WITH RGA. EMBASSY KABUL MAY WISH SUGGEST RGA SEND SENIOR OFFICIAL TO CONFER DIRECTLY WITH MR. T. MOSSADEGHI, MANAGING DIRECTOR NIGC. SINCE U.S. IS ITSELF MAJOR POTENTIAL CUSTOMER FOR IRANIAN GAS WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE APPROPRIATE IN OUR

VIEW FOR THIS EMBASSY OR EMBASSY KABUL TO ACT AS INTERMEDIARY IN ARRANGING RGA-GOI CONSULTATIONS ON GAS PRICING.

3. IRAN IS NOT NOW EXPORTING NATURAL GAS AS SUCH TO ANY COUNTRY OTHER THAN USSR.

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HELMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TEHRAN04871
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730737/aaaabaqz.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 KABUL 5095
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <09-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RGA REQUEST FOR WORLD GAS PRICES
TAGS: EMIN, ECON
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005